APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING A GATEWAY BETWEEN A WIRED TELEPHONE AND A WIRELESS TELEPHONE NETWORK Abstract

An apparatus is provided for creating a gateway between a wired telephone and a wireless telephone network. The gateway device is connected to a wired home telephone network having one or more wired telephones, a wired telephone network, such as the PSTN, and a wireless telephone network. The apparatus may operate in a first mode that allows the wired telephone network to be utilized as a primary telephone network for the wired home telephone network and the wireless telephone network to be utilized as a backup in case of failure of the wired telephone network. Alternatively, the apparatus may operate in a second mode that allows the wireless telephone network to be utilized as a primary telephone network for the wired home telephone network and the wired telephone network to be utilized as a backup in case of failure of the wireless telephone network. The selection of the operating mode for the apparatus may be based upon user selection, a user-specified time schedule, dialed digits, or other factors.